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Message Text

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13-S
ACTION SS-25

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---------- 073812
O 121043Z NOV 74
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1000

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 4915

EXDIS
EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, OEXC, PO
SUBJ: TRAVEL OF FRANCISCO SA CARNEIRO
REF: LISBON 4411, STATE 208836

1. SA CARNEIRO PREFERS TO TRAVEL TO U.S. WITH PPD TEAM AT PPD EXPENSE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER RATHER THAN ACCEPT DEPARTMENT'S INVITATION FOR A LEADER GRANT. HE HOPES FOR OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT FORD AND SECRETARY KISSINGER AND WITH OTHER KEY ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS USG MIGHT SUGGEST. SA CARNEIRO ALSO HOPES FOR APPOINTMENTS WITH CHAIRMEN SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS, AND HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEES. HE ALSO WISHES TO MEET WITH CONGRESSMAN DIGGS, SENATORS JACKSON, PERCY AND OTHER PROMINENT SENATORS, EX-PECIALLY THOSE OF RECOGNIZED PRESIDENTIAL POTENTIAL.

2. SA CARNEIRO WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY FRANCISCO PINTO BALSEMAO, EDITOR OF WEEKLY "EXPRESSO" AND ONE OF THREE FOUNDERS OF THE PPD; ANTONIO PINTO BARBOSA, THE PPD'S ECONOMIC EXPERT; RUI MACHETE, EDITOR OF PPD NEWSPAPER POVO LIVRE; AND A SECRETARY. SA CARNEIRO AND COMPANY WOULD ARRIVE WASHINGTON DECEMBER 1 AND STAT THERE THROUGH DECEMBER 3.

3. SA CARNEIRO WILL MEET WITH SENATOR EDWARD KENNEDY DURING THE SENATOR'S STOPOVER IN LISBON NOVEMBER 19-20 AND WILL DISCUSS WITH HIM POSSIBILITY OF VISITING PORTUGUESE COMMUNITY IN MASSACHUSETTS DECEMBER 4.

4. SA CARNEIRO WOULD PROCEED TO NEW YORK DECEMBER 5-6,
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SPEND THE DAY THERE AND RETURN TO LISBON.

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5. COMMENT: WHILE THIS IS AMBITIOUS PROPOSAL, EMBASSY
RECOMMENDS DEPARTMENT DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ACCOMMODATE
SA CARNEIRO'S WISHES, ALTHOUGH OBVIOUSLY WHITE HOUSE
APPOINTMENT WOULD BE DIFFICULT. AS DEPARTMENT KNOWS, PPD IS
CENTER-LEFT PARTY WHICH IT IN U.S. INTEREST TO PROMOTE TO
EXTENT POSSIBLE. PPD IS CONTENDING WITH MARIO SOARES' SOCIALIST
PARTY FOR SUPPORT OF THE DEMOCRATIC LEFT. SOARES, BY
VIRTUE OF THE FACT THAT HE WEARS TWO HATS, THAT OF FOREIGN
MINISTER AND LEADER OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY, HAS HAD A UNIQUE
OPPORTUNITY FOR VISIBILITY, INCLUDING FOUR MEETINGS WITH
SECRETARY KISSINGER AND ONE WITH PRESIDENT FORD. TO
COUNTERBALANCE THIS, AND ALSO BECAUSE HE WAS MINISTER
WITHOUT PORTUFOLIO AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER IN FIRST
PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT, SA CARNEIRO CONSIDERS REASONABLE
HIS REQUESTS TO CALL ON THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY.
HE CLEARLY WISHES AVOID GIVING IMPRESSION TO PORTUGUESE
ELECTORATE THAT HE TAKEN LESS SERIOUSLY BY USG THAN SOARES.

6. REQUEST DEPARTMENT REACTION TO THIS PROPOSAL SOONEST.
SCOTT

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER S/S-O MR. JOHNSON.

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